

Message Text

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ACTION PM-05

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 NSC-05 SP-02 SS-15 L-03
CIAE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 MCE-00 ACDA-12 OMB-01
TRSE-00 AID-05 COME-00 HA-05 /076 W
-----029740 061023Z /17

P 060740Z JUL 78
FM AMEMBASSY ANKARA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 2508
INFO SECDEF WASHDC PRIORITY
HQ USAF WASHDC PRIORITY
DSAA WASHDC PRIORITY
CINCEUR

C O N F I D E N T I A L ANKARA 4947

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: MASS, TU
SUBJECT: TURKISH GOVERNMENT PAYMENTS ON F-4 COMMERCIAL CONTRACT

1. WE HAVE LEARNED FROM ANKARA MCDONNELL-DOUGLAS REPRESENTATIVE THAT GOT HAS MISSED PAYMENTS ON F-4 COMMERCIAL CONTRACT DUE ON MAY 31 AND JUNE 30; AMOUNT INVOLVED IS APPROXIMATELY \$4 MILLION. REPORTEDLY, MCDONNELL-DOUGLAS HAS SAID THAT DELIVERIES PURSUANT TO CONTRACT WOULD BE SUSPENDED IF PAYMENTS NOT MADE BY JULY 7.

2. WHEN QUERIED ON THESE ARREARAGES, DEFENSE MINISTRY OFFICIALS HAVE TOLD US THAT, DURING LATE MAY-EARLY JUNE VISIT OF PRIME MINISTER ECEVIT TO WASHINGTON, U.S OFFICIALS (UNNAMED) GAVE ASSURANCES THAT USG WOULD MAKE PAYMENTS ON THE F-4 COMMERCIAL CONTRACT ON THE GOT'S BEHALF. FURTHERMORE, DEFENSE MINISTRY OFFICIAL SAID THAT U.S. "FINANCIAL EXPERTS" WOULD BE COMING TO ANKARA IN AUGUST TO FINALIZE PAYMENT ARRANGEMENTS CONCERNING F-4 COMMERCIAL CONTRACT.

3. COMMENT: WE ARE UNAWARE OF ANY ARRANGEMENTS FOR USG
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TO MAKE PAYMENTS ON COT'S F-4 COMMERCIAL CONTRACT AND, ACCORDING TO THE REPORTS WE HAVE RECEIVED OF ECEVIT'S DISCUSSIONS IN WASHINGTON ON DEFENSE MATTERS, THIS SUBJECT WAS NOT RAISED. IT APPEARS THAT GOT IS NOW IN DEFAULT ON COMMERCIAL OBLIGATION TO MCDONNELL-DOUBLAS AND, IF ARREARAGES ARE NOT PAID PROMPTLY, THE DELIVERY OF EQUIPMENT IN SUPPORT OF THE F-4 PROGRAM WILL BE ADVERSELY

AFFECTED. MOREOVER, IT IS POSSIBLE THAT THERE IS
MISUNDERSTANDING ON TURKS' PART CONCERNING USG DESIRES TO
BE FORTHCOMING ON MEETING URGENT GOT DEFENSE REQUIREMENTS
BECAUSE WE KNOW OF NO WAY TO UTILIZE FMS CREDITS TO SATISFY
COMMERCIAL CONTRACT OVERDUE PAYMENTS.

4. ACTION REQUESTED: WE WOULD APPRECIATE RECEIVING
ASAP ANY INFORMATION WASHINGTON AGENCIES MAY HAVE ON
PAYMENT ARRANGEMENT FOR F-4 COMMERCIAL CONTRACT AND SUMMARY
OF DISCUSSIONS TURKISH OFFICIALS MAY HAVE HAD ON THIS
MATTER.
SPIERS

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Message Attributes

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Draft Date: 06 jul 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
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Executive Order: GS
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TAGS: MASS, TU
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